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INHERENT BRUTALITY OF ENEMY EXPOSED BY OUR SPOKESMAN

Okazaki Compares Nippon Action in Saving Loyang Treasures for Posterity

Pointing to the indiscriminate bombing and wanton destruction of religious and cultural monuments perpetrated by the Anglo-Americans and their open violation of international law, including the rights of neutrals, Katsuo Okazaki, Acting Spokesman of the Board of Information, on Friday, drew attention to the fact that as the war went on and the fighting grew intense the inherent character and psychology of the nations at war become more apparent. Speaking to foreign correspondents for the first time in his capacity as Acting Spokesman, Mr. Okazaki remarked that it was a great pity that the Anglo-Americans acted in this brutal manner.

In this connection, Mr. Okazaki recalled that on May 12, the Supreme Commander of the Japanese Forces in North China issued strict orders to his troops that despite all inconveniences, they should give special consideration not to destroy the historical monuments of the city of Loyang. Loyang, Mr. Okazaki pointed out, is especially famous for its historical monuments.

"I particularly noticed this order of the Commander-in-Chief," Mr. Okazaki said, "because I recalled that a very large number of bombs was dropped on the famous Benedictine Monastery of Monte Cassino on the Italian front and it was turned into rubble by the Anglo-Americans." Mr. Okazaki added that there were many other such cases in France and other parts of Europe where irreplaceable old cathedrals and other historical and cultural edifices were subjected to the brute savagery of the Anglo-American enemy.

Loyang Monuments Protected

Loyang, Mr. Okazaki explained, is a very old city, which was the first capital of the Chou dynasty, in 1130 B.C. Since then it has been the capital of many other dynasties, including the Chin, Han, Chin, Wei and Sui dynasties. The most famous temple there is the White Horse Temple, built in 68 A.D. The city is full of temples and other monuments, each a priceless treasure because of its historical value.

Mr. Okazaki declared that he also remembered that when Nanking was about to be occupied in December, 1937, General Iwane Matsui, the then Supreme Commander of the Japanese Forces in Central China, issued strict orders to his forces to preserve the Sun Yat-sen Mausoleum and the Ming tombs. If the Japanese troops could have occupied the hill on which the Sun Yat-sen Mausoleum stood they would have had an advantageous position. But instead they had to go far south with the result that many soldiers' lives had to be sacrificed. Because of this, however, both of the monuments were preserved for posterity. "At that time I was in Nanking and we were all very proud," Mr. Okazaki recalled.

Comparing this with the prevailing situation in Europe, Mr. Okazaki regretted greatly the fact that so many historical landmarks were being destroyed by the enemy. Asked by the correspondents whether he thought the Americans had any misgivings when bombing these historical, cultural and religious monuments, the Acting Spokesman replied that they did not pay attention to such matters. "I remember them boasting that they dropped thousands of tons of explosives on Monastery Hill in Cassino even when the priests of the monastery made it clear that the sacred precincts were not used for military purposes," Mr. Okazaki said. The Anglo-Americans will act likewise whenever they get a chance, Mr. Okazaki declared, adding that it was "a great pity and a shame to mankind."

Mr. Okazaki also touched on a piece of enemy propaganda which seemed to elucidate the childish mind of the Anglo-Americans. He said that Indian soldiers in the British army were told that if they were taken prisoner by the Japanese Forces they would be boiled to death. As proof of this the British pointed to the big drums the Japanese had with them. The drums are used by the Japanese soldiers, who love cleanliness, to bathe in, Mr. Okazaki laughed.

Rommel, Blaskowitz, Sperrle Commanding German West Forces

Special

BERLIN, May 18.—Leadership of the German anti-invasion front in the west is revealed for the first time in this morning's Voelkischer Beobachter. According to the publication, Field-Marshals Erwin Rommel and Johannes Blaskowitz, the latter being mentioned for the first time as being of such rank, are both under the direct command of Field-Marshal Gert von Rundstedt, Commander-in-Chief in the West. Field-Marshal Hugo Sperrle is the Commander-in-Chief of the Air Forces in the West.

LOOSENING FEARED OF DOMINION TIES

Britain Worrying Economic and Financial Bonds May Weaken After War End

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, May 18.—Uneasiness has been rife recently over the possible weakening of economic and financial ties between Britain and the Dominions after the war, the periodical Financial News, reported recently.

Continuing, the periodical says that it was suggested in the press that the recent London conference of monetary experts of the Dominions failed to produce the desired results, and that there was some talk in the British Parliament about the Government's alleged intention of discontinuing the sterling bloc arrangement in its present form.

As a result, the Financial News added, a widespread desire in political circles for a debate on the matter to ascertain the Government's attitude has arisen. As a matter of fact, the periodical said, in one major respect the Government has already made its attitude plain. In answer to a recent question posed by Stimwell, a member of Parliament, Sir John Anderson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, denied that he entertained any intention of scrapping the sterling bloc arrangement.

His statement, the Financial News declared, which did not receive the attention it deserved, should go a long way toward allaying uneasiness.

Seen as Failure

Special

BERLIN, May 18.—The Empire Conference in London of the Dominion Prime Ministers ended with a joint declaration and short addresses delivered by those participating, according to a London dispatch, but Dr. Siegfried Horn, D.N.B. diplomatic correspondent, observes that neither the declaration nor the speeches contained any points which permit that positive work had been done.

He declares that such a sincere champion of the Empire as General Jan C. Smuts, Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa, must admit that the problems confronting the British Empire were not solved and therefore, the Empire Conference could hardly be spoken of as being a success in the widest sense.

Dr. Horn refers to the Reuter's report which also states that such a conference could only be held after the war because definite agreements were impossible at the present moment.

The Exchange Telegraph also complains that the stricter organization of the Empire as suggested by Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the U.S., and Prime Minister John Curtin of Australia had evidently not been decided upon as this problem was not touched on in the declaration.

This proves that Prime Minister Winston Churchill's intention to better organize the various parts of the British Commonwealth could not be realized, observes Dr. Horn, who arrives at the conclusion that the conference was a defeat for the "war man" who had every interest to prove that under his guidance, the British Empire was now slowly disintegrating.

He goes on to point out that moreover in the semi-official British statement it has been hinted that the various important problems which were debated could not be decided merely because consultations with the United States and the Soviet Union are necessary which clearly bring out the inability of the British leaders to carry out an independent policy.

REICH BOATS ENTER THAMES AND BLAST ENEMY DESTROYERS

German Submarine-Chaser Sinks Two Soviet Undersea Craft in Black Sea

Domei

BERLIN, May 18.—German torpedo-boats on Tuesday night invaded the southern coast of England as well as the mouth of the Thames River and attacked British destroyers and patrol-boats. During the naval engagements, the damage dealt the British ships could not be confirmed due to poor visibility. No damage was sustained by the Germans.

2 Soviet Submarines Sunk

Special

BERLIN, May 18.—A Soviet submarine was destroyed in the Black Sea by a German submarine-chaser yesterday, while shortly afterward another enemy undersea-craft was attacked with depth charges while it was submerged, an Interinf report disclosed, adding that oil and air bubbles appearing on the surface confirm that it was also sunk.

Meanwhile, it is reported that German patrol-boats early this morning intercepted British E-boats near the channel coast off Le Treport. Hits on the enemy boats were observed after which the enemy withdrew to the northwest.

Subsequently, German minesweepers repelled an attack by three enemy E boats off Pianesa near Toscan Islands. The enemy boats received several hits and fled.

Last night, naval batteries on Tytters Island in the Gulf of Finland shelled an enemy formation of ships sailing westward. When fire was opened on the enemy, the formation changed its course and turned eastward. Effect of the artillery fire could not be observed due to poor visibility.

Soviet Attacks Fail

On the Eastern Front, the Soviets again launched an attack from the narrowed bridgehead west of Butor at several points yesterday afternoon but their attacks were frustrated, according to supplementary reports from Colonel Ernst von Hammer, Internif military correspondent.

The Red Army at first achieved a minor breach of the German lines which however was sealed off in immediate counter-thrusts, he said.

Particularly heavy fighting developed west of Grigoriopol where strong Soviet contingents had been encircled since two days ago. The Soviets yesterday repeated their attempts of relief and finally succeeded in driving a wedge into the German lines after losing several tanks. Immediately, the Germans launched a fierce counter-thrust and closed the gap and achieved considerable narrowing of encirclement of the areas which is now subjected to concentrated fire from numerous heavy German guns.

Meanwhile, in the remaining sectors of the Eastern Front, Hungarian thrusts against Soviet field emplacements in the Carpathian forefield were successful and prisoners and booty were taken.

On the Finnish front, Soviet attack in the central part of the Aunus Isthmus was repelled with heavy enemy losses, according to today's Finnish war communique. Also, Finnish fighters shot down 10 Soviet planes when repelling minor Soviet attacks on a south Finnish port yesterday.

Salvador Constitution Set

Special

LISBON, May 18.—A San Salvador dispatch said that a commission composed of five leading lawyers was formed there to work out a new constitution for Salvador and the draft will be submitted to the National Assembly which will be called in the near future. Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Avila announced that all the American countries have recognized the Government under the leadership of President General Andres L. Menendez.

Red Cross Lorries Attacked

Special

BERLIN, May 18.—Motor lorries in the service of the International Red Cross Society and transporting cereals for the suffering Greek population were attacked and plundered on Monday by a Communist band on the road between Spart and Kythio, it was learned today.

Difficulties in War Against Japan Pointed Out to Americans by 'Life'

No Matter What Route Is Taken, Way Is Long and Difficult, Magazine Says, Warning Against Too Hopeful a View on the Future

By Arrangement with the Asahi

LISBON, May 17.—No matter what route the Americans may take, the way is long and beset with extreme difficulties, warns the American magazine Life in the issue of March 6 in an article on the campaign aimed at Japan Proper.

The article, entitled: "War with Japan," is a popular digest of the problems confronting the United States at war with Japan and reflects the common knowledge of Americans regarding these problems. After examining all the possible routes by which attacks may be made on the inner lines of Japanese defense, the article warns the public against entertaining too sanguine a view on the future of the campaign.

Seven routes are conceivable in such an advance. The Burma Highway is not suitable for a major counter-offensive. Weather difficulties attend any attempt via the Aleutians. An attack via Soviet territory is impossible for the present. This leaves four routes: one through Sumatra and Shonan to French Indo-China, that through Java and Borneo, that via New Guinea and the Philippines and that via the Marshall Islands, Mariana Islands and the South China Sea.

It is difficult to say, the article goes on, which of these four is the most important. The conflict between the McArthur program of advancing via the Philippines and the naval strategy of advance via the Gilberts and Marshalls is a case in point. General Douglas MacArthur's counter-offensive has been condemned as frozen but this is due not so much to the inadequate transit of supplies as to the rivalry of strategic plans between MacArthur and the Bureau of Naval Operations. The naval advance, on the other hand, seems quite rapid but has entailed tremendous losses at Tarawa for instance. In this case, the sacrifices made to secure just one island in only three days were equal to those made during six months in the operations against Guadalcanal. The only reasonable method is, therefore, to concentrate the main strength on the front where that is seen to be most effective at the particular moment and to continue the counter-offensive at other points in correspondence.

All the four routes have one common factor, the South China Sea coast as the goal of advance. Unless the Americans succeed in reaching the Chinese seaboard, they cannot send the sorely needed materials to Chungking. Without such supplies Chungking will find any further resistance difficult. Thus, a counter-offensive on Japan in real earnest must begin when the Americans have arrived at the southern coast of China. The route, whichever it is, leading there will be long and rough.

Then, what are the difficulties that are at present hampering the United States from staging a decisive war against Japan? There are four main issues which can be described as follows:

First, the United States has not yet completed preparations for staging a real invasion war against Japan. The U.S. navy will perhaps continue air raids by aircraft carriers even in the future but that does not mean a real invasion campaign. If it is an invasion, it is necessary to carry out in close succession the gathering of troops and commodities, the organization of a large transport unit, the convoying of troops to a point of attack, and the landing operations. At least several weeks will be necessary for executing such an operation, and in order to effect speedy landings at various points simultaneously, complete preparations are indispensable. To effect landing operations, numerous landing-barges and bases are necessary, but the United States is at present lacking in these vital things. This fact is apparently proving to be one of the reasons for rendering it difficult for the United States to stage an offensive against Japan.

Secondly, there lies a difficulty in the so-called island hopping strategy. It will be recalled that the American forces landed on Bougainville Island with the islands of the Solomon group in the Japanese hands, and Kuezyerin landing, too, was conducted in a similar manner without hitting outer islands of the Marshalls. However, there is a limit to such operations and there is always a danger of rear supply lines being cut off. For assuring safe supplies in the island hopping strategy, the securing of the command of the sea is necessary which depends entirely upon control of the air, which in turn is chiefly dependent on whether utilization of advantageous bases is possible. The present situation is that Japan maintains such favorable bases every 300 to 600 miles.

Thirdly, Japan may be suffering from the shortage of bottoms, but she can make up for this shortage by shortening far-off outer defense lines. It is most probable that Japan in the future will further attempt to shorten the outer lines to lessen the effect of American attacks.

Lastly, the Americans' misunderstanding of the equipment of the Japanese Forces can be cited. At the outset of the war the Americans had underestimated Japan's military strength, but they have fully repented their past mistake. Now, the Americans now entertain considerable fear of the superior Japanese arms and their clever operation. In fact, real worthiness of any superior equipment cannot be found unless it is sent to proper places and actually used. Take for instance an airfield for heavy bombers built in the British mainland. In constructing this airdrome, Britain spent $5,000,000 and 1,500,000 labor hours. It is in the Pacific that such an airfield is badly needed. In waging war against Japan, it is highly necessary for the United States to construct speedily such air bases because it is a technical war.

In conclusion, on the assumption that the war in Europe is ended, the Americans above all look forward to the transfer of the British aircraft carriers to East Asiatic waters and thereby greatly augment the strength of the present air raids. Japanese military strength will not in the least be affected by the outcome of the European situation, but it is possible that the Anglo-American forces in East Asia will be strengthened.

Moreover, after the conclusion of the hostilities in Europe, it is expected that at least 3,000 of the 4,000 four-engined heavy bombers reportedly held jointly by the British and Americans in Europe may be directed to the Pacific front. In this case, the crux of the problem is not whether this air force will be placed under the command of General Douglas MacArthur, Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. forces in the southwest Pacific, or Admiral Louis Mountbatten, Commander-in-Chief of the anti-Axis forces in southeast Asia, but the urgent need for expanding the present air bases on both fronts.

At present, in Britain, 50 heavy bombers require a total runway extending at least 60 miles. Thus, it may be calculated that in order to accommodate the 3,000 bombers which is expected in the Pacific theater, 60 new airfields of the above size must be constructed. What MacArthur and Mountbatten and the navy now hold, however, is only a mere fraction of the required bases.

BA MAW'S DAUGHTER TO WED ARMY OFFICER

Engagement Announced in Rangoon; Bridegroom-to-Be Holds Important Post

Domei

RANGOON, May 18.—Announcement has been made of the engagement of the Burmese Head of State and Prime Minister Ba Maw's eldest daughter, Thein Sa Maw, 18, to Ya Nein, 23, an officer of the Burmese National Army. The wedding will take place in the near future.

Officer Ya Nein led the students' anti-British movement while still enrolled at Rangoon University in 1938 and had continued his activities for attainment of independence for Burma. He is one of the 30 Burmese patriots who came to Japan in 1939 with Major General Thakin Aung San, Burma's present Minister of Defense. Officer Ya Nein holds an important post in the Burmese National Army and has just returned here from an inspection of the Burmese Army's annihilative operations against the enemy air-transported troops at the foremost lines.

JAPAN CAN DISLODGE ENEMY FROM BASES IN PACIFIC ANY TIME

Nippon Giving Battle in Leisurely Fashion, Navy Spokesman In Shanghai Warns

Domei

SHANGHAI, May 19.—After 21 months of desperate attempts since the commencement of the enemy's Pacific counter-offensive, the Americans have been able to secure merely the bases lying on the outer fringe of the Japanese defense circle and at any moment that Japan so desires she can dislodge them from their present precarious positions, Captain Keizo Matsushima, head of the press department of the Japanese China Fleet, commented yesterday with reference to the recent boasts of the new United States Secretary of the Navy, James V. Forrestal.

In connection with Forrestal's statement to the press Wednesday that in the Pacific theater of war the United States air force is conducting attacks against the Japanese at all points, north, central and south, Captain Matsushima said:

"No base is tenable unless it is garrisoned by a powerful force but the Americans have not stationed any such powerful force at any of the Pacific bases they have secured Once we make up our mind to wrest them back, we can do so with ease. The enemy is relying on the material resources he commands but we are giving battle in a leisurely fashion and inflicting heavy damage upon him. As the American strategist Lieutenant Colonel Canahan says, you can't win a war merely on the strength of materials. Even the United States with her boasted productive capacity is now suffering from depleted manpower. It is reported that she has recently mobilized 2,000 000 women, showing to what extent she is short of manpower. Japan, on the other hand, still has a large margin of human resources to draw upon, not to speak of the strong unity and superior quality of the Japanese race as compared with the enemy people.

Enemy's Weak Spot

"The longer the enemy extends his front, the longer and thinner will be his line of communications. This has become a sore, weak spot with the enemy. Australia may be a powerful base but it is impossible to cover all the tremendous requirements of a Pacific strategy with supplies from there. On Japan's part, on the other hand, her supply line is quite short compared with the enemy's, so that she enjoys great advantage in this respect, too. Enemy submarines are actively operating against the Japanese lines of communications but the effective counter-measures adopted by the Imperial Navy are frustrating his best-laid plans.

"A modern war is a total war and the whole nation must concentrate its energies on the production of arms. The volume of munition production may well decide the issue of war. Japan is building aircraft and shipping and producing fuels at a furious tempo. Especially in the production of aircraft, she is achieving spectacular results. Japan's confidence in her ultimate victory, therefore, is unshakable.

"After 21 months of frenzied efforts, the Americans have barely managed to gain the outer fringe of the Japanese circle of Pacific defense. They are intent upon breaking through to the interior lines but that will be no easy task. The present Japanese garrisons at Truk, Ponape and Marshalls are still intact and sound and the only reason they are not so active just now is because they are making elaborate preparations. The enemy may keep up desperate counter-offensives, but when these preparations are completed we will drive home hard blows to the enemy.

U.S. Passports Refused

Special

LISBON, May 18.—The sensation which had been caused by the Moscow visit of the Polish priest Stanislaus Orlemanski has now induced the U.S. State Department to refuse passports to two additional Polish-American priests, Skoniecki and Lekaroczyk, who wanted to visit Polish clergymen in Soviet concentration camps, according to a Daily Sketch report from Washington. Preparations for this visit had already been made by the Soviet Embassy and American Communists, the report added.

Bootleggers, Forgers Of Gasoline Coupons Thriving in America

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, May 18.—American bootleggers are back again, reports the Daily Herald which states that everything is done in a smooth and efficient manner under cover of seemingly respectable business premises. Black-market in food, liquor and nylon stockings prospers but millions are made by syndicates who forge gasoline coupons. This traffic reached such alarming proportions that the whole gasoline rationing system is in danger of collapse, states the paper, adding that some 2,500,000 gallons are daily siphoned from the nation's reserve stocks by motorists on counterfeit coupons bought from racketeers.

YUNNAN STUDENTS KILL U.S. OFFICERS

15 Killed at Kunming When Hatred Against Yanks Results in Open Clash

Domei

AT AN X X BASE IN BURMA, May 19.—Incensed students of the Yunnan University numbering some 500 shot dead 15 American army officers with revolvers and other arms in a recent riot at Kunming, according to information reaching here.

Deep-seated conflict has developed between the Americans and Chinese in Chungking-controlled China with the latter area steadily reduced to a colonial state as a result of the United States military authorities turning the area into their base of operations against Japan. Clashes are especially frequent between United States airmen and Chungking airmen.

The arbitrary and arrogant methods of the Americans have incurred the bitter resentment of Chungking students whose relations with the American air officers with whom they come in contact have been growing from bad to worse. The strained feeling between them at last resulted recently in an open clash at Kunming.

The incident started when many casualties were caused among Chinese students by the officers of the American air force who shot into the former in a clash that broke out between them. This outrage greatly excited the lurking enmity of the Chinese students and about 500 students of Yunnan University launched a counter-attack, shooting to death 15 Americans with revolvers and other weapons.

In a counter-move, the American authorities filed a strong protest with the Chungking authorities, demanding that severe penalty be imposed upon those responsible for the murder. Kowtowing to the American pressure, the Chungking authorities carried out a simultaneous round-up of students and imposed heavy punishment on them on the charge of pro-Japanism. This, in turn, further stimulated the resentment of the Chinese students against the authorities which has developed into bitter criticisms of the officials. Indications are that the trouble will assume more serious proportions as time goes on.

RIOTS BREAK OUT AT DACCA; 6 PEOPLE REPORTED KILLED

Curfew Imposed, Carrying of Arms Banned; Trouble Began at Soccer Match

Special

LISBON, May 18.—Six persons were killed and 18 injured in riots which broke out in Dacca, Bengal, yesterday, according to a dispatch received here.

The report said that as a result, the district magistrate has issued orders prohibiting the carrying of weapons and meetings of more than five persons. He also imposed a curfew from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m.

It was disclosed that the trouble arose over a football match a week ago, and the sequel to this was the clash between two local groups on the playing field last Sunday.

Authorities took precautionary measures which had apparently restored the situation to normal, but, yesterday, cases of stabbing and hurling of sodawater bottles and brickbats were reported from several quarters of the city, resulting in six killed.

FOE ATTEMPTS FAIL TO EFFECT RETREAT IN NORTH OF IMPHAL

Hundreds of British Soldiers Wiped Out in Front of Mokokuchon on May 12

By S. HASEGAWA
Of the Military Press Corps

INDIAN FRONT, May 18.—All attempts of the enemy troops in the north of Imphal to open up a path of retreat have failed in face of the vigorous operations of the Japanese Forces.

Revealing the intensity of the fighting, and the extent to which the British are desperately trying to force a retreat, is the fact that most of the bodies found on the battlefields by the Japanese since May 12 are the corpses of British troops.

Employing 400 trucks, the British soldiers advanced northward on a road running through the Iliu Valley on May 11. However, the right wing of the Japanese Forces, which had anticipated this move, intercepted the enemy and wiped out several hundred British troops in front of a height at Mokokuchon on the Kohima highway on the afternoon of May 12.

In the Wukululu highway sector, 200 British soldiers, with several tanks in the vanguard, on May 12 approached the 4955 Height on the main highway, but they were all wiped out by the Japanese.

On the following day, when the enemy attempted to retake the 4241 Height, the Japanese quickly staged an offensive against the attackers while they were trying to concentrate their forces. As a result, the enemy troops were thrown into confusion, and their plan to advance was frustrated. In this battle, 400 British troops were found abandoned on the battlefield.

Checking Fleeing Sepoys

By K. HASHIMOTO
Of the Military Press Corps

FOREMOST BURMA FRONT, May 17.—With the war situation in the Imphal Plains growing more unfavorable daily for the British-Indian forces, the British authorities have intensified their propaganda activities toward the Indian soldiers in a futile effort to check the sepoys from surrendering to the Japanese Forces and the Indian National Army.

The New Delhi radio at first ignored the Indian National Army but since the latter started its broadcasts, the enemy radio was compelled to allude to the Indians' fight for liberation in its broadcasts, which are full of vicious slanders on the organization and equipment of the Indian National Army.

In view of the growing tendency among the sepoys to cast in their lot with the Azad Hind Fauj, the British military authorities are now out to influence the soldiers of the Azad Hind Army at the Palel front to join their rank and, at the same time, are trying to check the sepoys in the British-Indian forces from joining their brethren in Netaji Bose's army by means of distorted counter-propaganda. The enemy propaganda is so preposterous as to allege that the Japanese will kill the soldiers who surrender to them; some of the Japanese bullets are made of wood; the Free Indian Army is only illusionary, and that Subhas Chandra Bose has long been dead.

Naturally, the native Indian soldiers who surrendered on that front have been greatly surprised to see the magnificent bond of brotherhood existing between the Japanese Forces and the Azad Hind Army.

Engineering Units Active

Domei

EAST INDIAN FRONT, May 16.—By building special roads through the Jibyu Range east of the Chindwin River, one leading from Pinpon to Langohensakan, 90 kilometers long, another from Langohensakan to Sitsauku, 22 kilometers long and a third from Langohensakan to Sinramen, 37 kilometers long, the Japanese troops were able to advance westward across the precipitous mountains.

Since the roads running from Kalewa along the Manipur River and from Kalewa across the Kabau Valley would not enable the Japanese troops to march secretly from northern Burma to Imphal, the construction of new roads over the Jibyu range was undertaken. The surveying unit which led the way was closely followed by other units equipped with axes and picks. Dyna-

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 8)

Press Comments

Friday, May 19

FOURTH TERM FOR ROOSEVELT IS DESIRABLE

MAINICHI—It is a curious phenomenon, breaking the tradition of American political practice since its inception that Franklin Roosevelt should have been elected President for three terms. Even if this is wartime, will he run for a fourth term? If it is his intention to do so, what would be the reaction of the American people to it? In this sense the presidential elections this fall are awaited with much curiosity the world over.

Recent dispatches indicate that the National Convention of the Democratic Party to be held toward the end of July at Chicago, when the party's presidential candidate will be nominated, will be attended by 677 delegates of various States, their list having already been decided. If 585 of them could be swayed, the qualification for nomination would be secured, but all 677 are said to have expressed their support of Roosevelt.

The question is whether Roosevelt himself would accept the nomination. If he does so, his position so far as the Democrats are concerned may be considered assured. Will he accept? Judging from his past methods, he will most likely give no sign of his inward wishes, but will carefully gauge the trend of affairs on the political front and make both friend and foe wear themselves out guessing what his intentions are.

Of course we have no vital interest in the presidential elections of an enemy country. There can be no change in war policy whosoever should be elected President of the United States. As we have always pointed out, this war is entirely of a different nature from wars of the past. There can be no cessation of hostilities until the final victory has been decided.

From the point of view of the United States, she has already gone too far into the war, even merely, from the economic and financial angle, to do anything about it. Should she stop now, she would go to pieces through an economic and financial collapse. Thus she must fight on at any cost. This has nothing to do with the question of who should be President.

The fact is that we hope Roosevelt would be elected for a fourth term. Why? We want to find him there to take the responsibility for the defeat of his country as the archvillain who brought on the war and Public Enemy No. 1 of mankind.

FAMINE RAGING IN ARABIA

3,000 Already Dead in Hadramaut; Government Seeks Aid

Special

ZURICH, May 17.—The death toll from the famine raging at present in Hadramaut, Arabia, has increased to 3,000, according to an Ankara dispatch.

Today's reports say that the daily bread ration is 25 grams per person and the Hadramaut Government has appealed to all the Arabian countries especially to Egypt for help.

It is learned that for the past two years now, no ships with food supplies had arrived at Hadramaut harbor.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

May 18

At the Italian south front, the enemy yesterday succeeded in breaking into our positions north of Formia suffering extremely heavy casualties and our countermeasures are under way. In the Esperia area, all enemy attacks supported by heavy artillery fire and many tanks were repulsed.

Cassino, which the Anglo-Americans for months tried to storm, was evacuated last night without fighting. A barrier position which is situated further toward the rear was occupied, thus saving our forces.

In the Nettuno landing head, fighting activity flared up again while strong enemy thrusts south of Cisterna and south of Littoria were repulsed. Our bombers last night successfully attacked the enemy deployment positions and communication roads in the Minturno area.

U.S. bombers attacked several ports on the Italian west coast as well as on Elba Island and our A.A.-artillery and fighters downed 17 enemy aircraft.

From the Eastern Front, no major fighting operations are reported with the exception of lively local fighting at the lower Dniester and in the forefields of the Carpathians.

In the Black Sea, a U-boat chaser sank a Soviet submarine and damaged another one so severely that its loss is probable. Our bombers last night attacked the railway station at Smolensk causing several conflagrations.

Finnish fighters downed 10 enemy aircraft when Soviet bombers attempted to attack a southern Finnish port.

The fighting against the Communist bands in the Balkans is being continued successfully. Between May 1 and 5, the Communists lost more than 5,000 dead, 1,200 prisoners and several hundred deserters. Many guns, weapons and war equipment of every kind were captured, while 31 supply dumps were either siezed or destroyed.

OUR A.A. GUN UNIT SMASHES FOE PLAN

Japanese on Bougainville Maintain Firm Control Over Vital Commissary Lines

By T. SHIOKAWA
Of the Military Press Corps

BOUGAINVILLE FRONT.—In a futile attempt to cut the Japanese commissary lines in the Bougainville Island area, the enemy mobilized 9,476 aircraft of which 4,884 came attacking the Japanese positions during January alone. However, maintaining firm control over the supply routes, the Japanese Anti-Aircraft Gun Unit on the island, under the command of Captain Matsuzaki, successfully repulsed all attacks and in addition brought down 12 planes within the short period of one month without any loss of life to the Unit.

The enemy air force commenced vigorous activities in the early part of January, apparently with the design to seize aerial control over the Japanese commissary lines connecting X and X rivers. Charged with the weighty task of securing these lines, the crack Anti-Aircraft Gun Unit under Captain Matsuzaki was dispatched to XX.

In order to meet the persistent enemy attacks, repeated day after day, thorough preparations were necessary. Therefore, the Matsuzaki Unit immediately set to work to construct sham positions wherewith to trap the enemy, at the same time formulating plans which would facilitate their movements from one place to another.

A few days passed before preparations were completed, the men impatiently awaiting the appearance of the enemy. As soon as the rain, which had been falling heavily, had ceased and the skies cleared of stormy clouds, three black spots became visible. In no time these spots materialized into three Lockheeds winging straight toward the Japanese position.

All guns were ready to open fire. The enemy planes began to unload their bombs aimlessly when the Japanese took up the challenge with fierce volley of gun fire. Shell after shell found their targets forcing the enemy planes to beat a hasty retreat. In anticipation of the return of the enemy, the Matsuzaki Unit lost no time in shifting its position.

On the following day, the enemy made an early morning attack at 4 o'clock. Ship-based bombers, flying at a low altitude, attempted to ascertain the location of the Japanese position where they had met a violent counter-attack the day before. Not being successful in their search, however, they sent down a shower of bombs on the sham positions and quickly disappeared through the clouds.

On the third day, more enemy planes appeared, flying at a low altitude. They were met with a thunderous volley from the Japanese guns which roared simultaneously. One enemy plane was put out of action. Encouraged by this initial success, the men of the Matsuzaki Unit further intensified their counter-attack. During the night they again moved their position.

For over a month, the men of the Matsuzaki Unit moved their position from one place to another in defiance of torrential rains which transformed the jungle into a huge swamp, and, in spite of all obstacles, repulsed the enemy who repeatedly came to the island. Attesting to the vigorous activities of the Matsuzaki Unit, 12 enemy aircraft were downed within the short period of one month.

The enemy air force holds the Japanese artillery action in great respect, and is still continuing its aimelss and wasteful bombing of sham positions. Over the commissary lines, which are secure in the hands of the Japanese Forces, numerous trucks laden with ammunition and foodstuffs can be seen daily speeding on their specific mission.

PAN-ARABIAN CONFERENCE TO BE HELD THIS SUMMER

Special

BERLIN, May 18.—Constant postponing of the Pan-Arabian conference, which was scheduled to be held at Cairo in April, is bitterly resented by the Egyptian press, according to an Internif dispatch from Adana.

The periodical, Al Ethoin, said that it was learned today that the meeting will be held this coming summer in Alexandria.

It was disclosed recently that the conference would take place shortly, the magazine pointed out. Today, it has been reported that the meeting will be held this coming summer in Alexandria, but, tomorrow, other quarters may state that the parley will take place in Cairo at the end of this year, the periodical added.

The fact, however, is that up to now, no definite decision has been made, Al Ethoin stressed, adding, the unsolved Palestine question is the cause for the constant postponing of the meeting.

Hero Self-Blasts Plane in Fierce Air Clash Over Carolines; Returns to Base Unscathed

By T. SATO
Of the Military Press Corps

CENTRAL PACIFIC BASE.—After crashing his plane against an enemy B-24 over the Caroline Islands area, Superior Flight Petty Officer T. skilfully maneuvered his crippled plane to XX Island of the Caroline group, and after an absence of six days, miraculously returned to the base amid the joyous welcome of his comrades on April 29.

On April 23, the enemy air force, consisting of 23 B-24's attacked Mereyon Island of the Caroline group. Fiercely taking up the enemy's challenge, the Japanese Air Units brought down 12 enemy aircraft, and routed the others. When Superior Flight Petty Officer T., who participated in the aerial combat, did not return to the base, his comrades thought that he must have self-blasted. However, to their great joy, he was brought safely back to the base by a destroyer.

Upon returning to the base, Superior Flight Petty Officer T. gave the following account of his adventures:

"Several enemy bombers, which had been hit by the Japanese, began to spurt black clouds of smoke, and soon crashed to the ground. With half of their number downed, the enemy planes began to take to their heels.

"I pursued the fleeing enemy planes. Zooming past the enemy bombers, I was about to attack the first plane, when I realized that my supply of bullets was exhausted. Determining immediately to self-blast against the enemy, I crashed into the last of the fleeing craft. With its gear blasted, the enemy plane went into a spin, and plunged headlong to its doom.

"Upon investigation, I discovered that one-third of the left wing of my plane had been ripped off. As the engine began to lose power, I headed my plane for home. However, when I saw the oil leaking out in an increasing amount, I realized that I could not return to the base. Finding a little island near Mereyon Island, I made a forced landing. Plunging headlong into the sandy shore, my plane turned upside down. Though I struggled to climb out of the cockpit, it was in vain. However, some native inhabitants soon came rushing to my rescue.

"I was then kindly guided to one of the native houses where I was accorded warm hospitality. While I awaited rescue, I spent the days happily fishing. On the third day, I was rescued by a Japanese destroyer."

INDIANS IN E. AFRICA FIGHT RESTRICTIONS

Hold Meeting to Discuss Control Over Immigration Enforced by Authorities

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, May 18.—Reflecting the agitation of the Indians throughout East Africa who have been roused to indignant action by the restrictions placed on Indian immigration, the East Africa Indian community held a special inter-territorial conference, according to a recent report by the London Times correspondent in Nairobi.

The situation arising from the decision of the East African Governments two months ago to control non-native immigration by the permit system was discussed at this special conference. Action was first taken in the middle of February by the Government of Tanganyika on the grounds that the scarcity of food and congested housing conditions made such a control desirable. At that time consultations were held with the Government of India and, in view of Tanganyika's mandatory status, with the Foreign Office.

In addition to the food shortage and congested housing conditions, the Government of Tanganyika advanced the further argument that there was no longer a scarcity of workers—that, on the contrary, there was a considerable number of Asiatic people unemployed. In spite of this fact, however, unskilled Indian laborers, expecting to get work, were still arriving in large numbers.

On the heels of the decision taken by the Government of Tanganyika, the Governments of Kenya and Uganda enforced similar restrictions a week later, such restrictions to continue for the duration of the war.

Considerably agitated by this situation, the Indian community throughout East Africa began to regard the decision of the East African Governments as a political move influenced, if not engendered, by the European settlers.

It is true that the restriction on Indian immigration is one of the many angles of East Africa's "Indian Question."

After expressing regret that the Government of India consented to the restriction, the Indian conference passed a resolution urging the suspension of regulations pending consideration of the whole question by the State Secretary for Colonies and the Government of India. A resolution was also passed that the Government of India be invited to send a commission or commissioner to East Africa to inquire into the present predicament and hardships of the Indian community.

Rundstedt Meets Petain

Domei

VICHY, May 16.—Field-Marshal Gert von Rundstedt, Commander-in-Chief of the Reich Forces in German-Occupied Territories in Western Europe, today met and conferred with Marshal Philippe Petain, French Chief of State, according to a Paris dispatch reaching here.

Senate Approves Forrestal

Special

LISBON, May 17.—The United States Senate today approved the nomination of James V. Forrestal, Undersecretary of the Navy, as Secretary of the Navy succeeding the late Colonel Frank Knox, according to a Washington dispatch.

42 ENEMY PLANES DESTROYED BY AXIS

17 Claimed Over West Italy; 25 Downed When Attacking Serbia and Rumania

Special

BERLIN, May 18.—American bombers carried out attacks against several harbors on the Italian west coast and Elba Island yesterday and 15 enemy machines were shot down over Italy by flak batteries as well as two more planes destroyed in aerial combats, according to reports from the Italian front.

About the same time yesterday, American bomber formations entered Serbian and Rumanian areas under fighter screen but were met with fierce opposition, reports Major Alfred Freytag, Interinf Luftwaffe correspondent.

Enemy formations were already attacked when approaching by German and Rumanian fighters and the flak batteries were also active with telling effect. At least 25 four-engined enemy bombers were shot down by German and Rumanian fighters alone, according to the latest reports.

In the area north of Bucharest, due to the dense ceiling of clouds, bombs were dropped indiscriminately by the enemy. Embittered aerial combats developed in the Serbian area south of Belgrade and one enemy Liberator bomber exploded in midair by a direct flak hit as well as others which were damaged or destroyed.

Additional Interinf reports also revealed that United States bombers stationed in the Mediterranean have restarted their activities after a long interval.

Early this morning, they entered the Balkans area under fighter protection, but were met by heavy defense fire. The aerial engagements between the German and allied fighters and the American formation which ensued is still in progress.

On approaching the Rumanian territory, American formations had to overcome very strong defense barrage and lost a number of four-engined bombers. Their attack on the Serbian area also resulted in American losses brought about by German fighters and many flak batteries.

Frenchmen Sent to Farms

Special

VICHY, May 18.—Young Frenchmen between the ages of 16 and 19 will now be assigned to agricultural labor service to help ensure harvesting work in nine French departments, according to an announcement made over the French radio today. This compulsory agricultural labor service will last for three months and for students will not commence before June 15. Only youngsters whose parents or grandparents operate their own farms may choose their own working places while the others will be assigned to certain farms.

North Iran Flooded

Special

LISBON, May 18.—Extensive inundations are washing away the railway lines at Zamindasht and Zerindasht in northern Iran, according to an Istanbul dispatch quoting the Teheran paper, Ettelaat, adding that numerous houses were flooded in the Semnan district and that considerable other damage was done.

REICH LAND MINES BLAST FOE IN ITALY

German Guns Continue to Pound Anti-Axis Troops From Elevated Positions

Special

BERLIN, May 18.—The enemy Indian, Polish and Morrocan troops assaulting the German positions on the southern Italian front have suffered such severe losses that American and British divisions which had been held in reserve have now been thrown into the battle, a German military spokesman disclosed today. He said that the proportion of the British and Americans now fighting to their auxiliary troops was about fifty-fifty.

The spokesman described anti-Axis losses as "extraordinarily high" and declared that the losses were partly due to conditions of terrain which permitted the German guns to clearly observe enemy movements and enabled them to hit their targets with devastating accuracy and enabled them to hit extensive laying of land-mines by the Germans. The spokesman stressed that the latter method was causing particularly high losses among the enemy forces because they were attacking in large numbers on a narrow front.

At the deepest point of penetration the Anglo-Americans have moved 25 kilometers, the spokesman explained. He emphasized however that such gains were not made on the focal points of the fighting and that the disengagement movement, in the course of which Cassino was evacuated, was not the result of an enemy breakthrough at any point of the German front. The spokesman emphasized that it was ordered by the German command for tactical reasons. He said that the battle which had hitherto raged in the forefield had thus approached closer to the new German system of positions lying farther back.

All Equipment Removed

Meanwhile, reports from the front disclosed that General Heidrich's parachute troops on Wednesday night evacuated the pile of debris which was the town of Cassino with their entire equipment without the enemy noticing the move. The troops of British General Leese were deprived of their anticipated success by this maneuver of the German command. British tank formations had tried in vain to pass Cassino via Casilina in the direction of Aquina, hoping to cut off the German formations stationed there. No attacks had been directed against Cassino during the course of the whole battle.

Following the well-tried German method of not insisting on clinging to points, Cassino was given up after other advanced positions were evacuated. Covered with dust, dog-tired and often in blood-stained bandages, formations of the Eighth army staggered into the Liri valley just as did the troops of American General Mark Clark's Fifth army in the coastal section. But they made only one discovery: that they were facing still more difficult mountain positions and still more numerous minor forefield points.

The number of German rocket guns increased. In the fighting raging now, the shrieking of these rocket guns mingles with the roar of artillery and with the horrible chattering of machine-guns, reports said. Losses in men suffered by the anti-Axis are described in all reports from the front as unusually heavy and altogether disproportionately greater than those of the Germans. This is a natural consequence of the fact that the Germans are entrenched in well-built positions which are difficult to perceive and situated on a higher level than the attacking forces. It can safely be assumed the enemy's losses in men in the course of the next few days of intensified fighting will even exceed those already sustained during the first seven days.

Every Yard Contested

Reports from the front revealed that terrific fighting was going on for every bunker and every yard of road. In the course of the first seven days of the struggle, the enemy advanced at the most 18 kilometers along a front 35 kilometers wide. This means an average progress of two and a half kilometers daily.

The extremely tired enemy troops now find themselves confronted by still steeper heights. Directly to the north of Formia rises the Monte Peltrella Range, which is 1,533 meters high. Along its eastern slope runs the contested road to Esperia. Farther north is Monte Doro, 846 meters high. Still farther north is the valley of Liri. Then comes the town of Pontecorvo, followed by the town of Aquina on the railway line from Naples to Rome, which is dominated in the north by Monte Cairo, 1,669 meters high. This is a rough outline of the present battlefield.

Indications were, however, that the battle in southern Italy was now expanding in area. Reports from the Nettuno front said that the anti-Axis artillery fire there, which had been steadily increasing since the beginning of the week, was followed up on Wednesday by two stronger enemy thrusts against the German ring south of Cisterna and south of Littoria. Military experts said that this might possibly be an enemy operation to tie down the German forces but that it was more likely that these two thrusts were just the initial operations for a new anti-Axis large-scale attack in this part of the Italian theater of war also.

500 American Boys Quarrel Over Girls; Police Called Out

Special

LISBON, May 18.—Attesting to increasing juvenile delinquency in the United States, a Minneapolis dispatch revealed that 10 police squads were called out on Tuesday night to break up a crowd of 500 high school students who were engaged in a quarrel with boys from another over the dating of girls from one high school. When the students refused to disperse, the police officers loaded 32 boys into patrol wagons and took them to police headquarters. They were released on Wednesday after they had been fingerprinted and given a severe lecture on mob dangers, the dispatch said.

STETTINIUS' TALKS SAID DISAPPOINTING

London Parley Brought More Difficulties Than Results, Say Informed Circles

Special

BERLIN, May 18.—Anglo-American hopes placed on the results of U.S. Undersecretary of State Edward Stettinius' London talks have been disappointed is the general conclusion drawn by the European public, writes Ernst Lemmer in a special article to the Domei.

He observes that the return of Stettinius to the United States after several weeks in London has received remarkably little attention in the Anglo-American press which is in absolute contrast to the avalanche of reports published in London and Washington at the time when Stettinius left for the British capital.

The European public has little doubt that Anglo-American hopes on the results of Stettinius' London talks have been shattered. In fact there are some well-informed circles who declare that the London talks have brought about more difficulties than results.

It is reported that Stettinius, on his return to the United States, expressed assurances of Anglo-American solidarity. However, neutral observers, especially in Sweden, despite the strictest censorship, have learned that the British diplomats have suffered sharp setbacks.

As far as neutral European countries are concerned, Lemmer said, the anti-Axis camp has been able to record some successes in regard to Spain and Turkey while Stettinius was in London.

Turkey, under strong pressure exercised by the Anglo-Americans, has been forced to suspend chrome supplies to Germany while Spain had to consent to reducing wolfram supplies to the Reich and to closing the German consulate at Tangier in North Africa.

Calm reaction in Germany to these events, however, shows that these Anglo-American successes should by no means be overrated. Attention is drawn in this connection to the many things which the Anglo-American spring offensive against neutral states has failed to achieve.

It is recalled, for instance, that neither Sweden nor Switzerland has given in to Anglo-American pressure while attempts to pry Finland from the Axis front have conspicuously failed.

Summarizing, it may be said that on the eve of great military events in Europe, non-belligerents are showing no inclination to make more concessions to the anti-Axis camp than absolutely necessary under the prevailing circumstances. Neutrals in Europe think it advisable to wait before making political decisions involving their neutrality until it is possible to form a definite idea as to the actual course taken by the great military operations.

British Train Service Cut

Special

LISBON, May 15.—Many more British passenger trains will be discontinued without notice during this summer, according to the announcement issued by the Railway Executive Committee, a London dispatch disclosed. The report added that already a large number of trains have been discontiuued.

WORK-OR-FIGHT BILL PUSHED IN AMERICA

Senate Committee Is Urged to Pass Measure; Patterson Denounces Walk-Outs

Special

LISBON, May 18.—Admitting again the serious manpower shortage in the United States, Robert Patterson, Undersecretary of War, James Forrestal, newly appointed Secretary of the Navy, and Donald Nelson, chairman of the War Production Board, today urged the passage of the "work-or-fight" legislation in their testimonies before the Senate Military Affairs Committee, according to a Washington dispatch.

Patterson declared: "Any strike in wartime on the war-production front is inexcusable whatever the merit." In this category, Patterson flayed the 20-day foremen's strike in Detroit which has just been concluded, and which seriously affected the production of fighter planes.

"The sacrifices of the workers," Patterson emphatically added, "are trivial compared with the sacrifices of the men at the front."

Nelson testified that a "desperate" manpower situation existed in the foundry industry which supplies iron and steel castings for transportation, farm and war equipment, and warned that the "situation would develop into great danger" if not solved quickly.

Meanwhile, Forrestal supported the work-or-fight bill as being a "statutory affirmation of the obligation of the citizens at home to back up the men at the front by working in war plants."

The proposed work-or-fight measure calls for the military draft of men between the ages of 18 and 45 who leave their war jobs, or who fail to take such positions on the orders of the Government.

Confirming the reports of the low morale of the men in the United States armed forces, Forrestal and Patterson stressed the effect the enactment of the bill would have on the morale of the fighting men, many of whom, they said, feel that the people at home are shirking their duty.

Meanwhile, Representative Guy Rankin, Democrat from Mississippi, in a speech in the House, declared that he wished that General Henry Arnold, Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Army Air Forces, "had more power to stop the Communist agitators who are stirring up strikes in our country."

A Washington dispatch said that Arnold's threats yesterday had caused the leaders of the striking Detroit foremen to call off their strike.

Labor Meetings Postponed

Special

LISBON, May 16.—Owing to the difficult traffic situation in Britain, the executive committee of the British Labor Party has decided to postpone indefinitely the Labor Party annual conference and the national labor conference for women arranged for Whitsuntide and June respectively in London, according to a London dispatch.

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Ex-Polish Premier Dies Of Injuries Suffered In U.S. Terror Attack

Special

BERLIN, May 18.—Dr. Leo Kozlowski, former Polish Prime Minister, died on May 11 in a Berlin hospital of injuries sustained in an American terror raid, it was learned today. On the day of the raid, Dr. Kozlowski was on his way from his hotel to an air raid shelter when he was injured by an explosive. Dr. Kozlowski, who was Prime Minister under Marshal Joseph C. Pilsudski, was arrested by the Soviets when Lemberg was occupied in 1939. After being released in the summer of 1940, he escaped to Germany.

Foe Attempts Fail To Effect Retreat In North of Imphal

(Continued From Page 1)

mite was used to blast rocks. Temporary workshops were built where native engineers repaired damaged tools. About one hundred elephants were employed for transporting the lumber to be used in the construction of bridges over the valleys.

Thanks to the strenuous efforts of the engineering corps, the gigantic enterprise which was begun at the end of October last year, was completed by December 31. Thus, through the densely-wooded jungles which had previously resisted all penetration, a wide automobile road four to six meters wide, to the eastern bank of the Chindwin River, was constructed.

With all preparations for crossing the river completed by early March this year, the Japanese troops in Burma commenced marching northward. Alarmed over the sudden influx of the Japanese Forces, the enemy headquarters of the 4th Army Corps hurriedly dispatched great numbers of troops to the south. While the enemy forces in the Indo-Burmese border area were being subjected to fierce attacks, some Japanese Units successfully crossed the Chindwin River on March 15, after which some advanced via Somhra and others through Wukululu and cut off the enemy's retreat in the Imphal Plains.

Thus, the success of the Japanese Forces in their operations against Imphal must be partly attributed to the dauntless efforts of the engineering corps.

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ISLAMIC HEAD HERE FETED ON BIRTHDAY

Imam Ibrahim Greeted on Reaching 95 by International Gathering of Moslems

A brilliant international gathering of over 100 local Islamites in celebration of the 95th birthday of Imam Ibud tu Rashid Ibrahim, religious leader and an ardent exponent of Pan-Asianism now residing in Tokyo, was held on Friday at 2 p.m. at the Moslem School in Shibuya.

Against the bright background of the green Islamic national emblem and the red and white of Japan's national emblem, the colorful shawls of the women and the embroidered headdresses of the men, the white turbaned figure clothed in severe black held the eyes of all present.

Before the meeting was opened everyone bowed in the direction of the Imperial Palace, after which a silent prayer was offered for the souls of the heroes laid at rest at Yasukuni Shrine. This was followed by a prayer led by Ameen Islami, Imam of the Tokyo Mosque.

The guest of honor was greeted by Lieutenant-General Nobutaka Shioden, President of the Moslem School in Tokyo, in a short speech congratulating the Islamite leader on the attainment of his 95th birthday. It was, President Shioden stated, a great attainment indeed, for not only had the leader reached the venerable age of 95 but during these several score years, he had devoted the greater part of his time to bolstering understanding and friendship between his country and Japan, nay, between all Mohammedans and Japan. That he has been successful in his life-work was attested to by the many friends he had made since his arrival in Japan over 30 years ago, continued the President. The leader must live, he concluded, to celebrate many more birthdays, not only to rejoice with them in the victory that was certain to come but also to enjoy the happy days that would follow.

To President Shioden's words of congratulation were added those of Imam Ameen Islami, at the conclusion of which a huge bouquet of flowers was presented to Imam Ibrahim by two small school children.

In offering his thanks to all those present, guests included, for the gathering in his honor, Imam Ibud tu Rashid Ibrahim touched on the long friendship between the Moslems and Japan. It was his hope, he stated, that this tie of friendship would be still further tightened, especially now when we must stand together against Anglo-American world domination. It was his daily prayer, the Imam declared, that he would be given life until the day of victory and he was confident that his prayer would be answered.

Senior Statesmen Will Meet

The holding of informal monthly meetings hereafter of senior statesmen, who had formerly held the post of Prime Minister, was decided following a meeting at the Prime Minister's official residence at 4 p.m. on Wednesday. Aside from Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo, those present were Baron Reijiro Wakatsuki, Admiral Keisuke Okada, Baron Kiichiro Hiranuma, Prince Fumimaro Konoye, Admiral Mitsumasa Yonai, Koki Hirota, General Nobuyuki Abe, and Dr. Yoshimichi Hara, president of the Privy Council. After partaking of supper together, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

LIGHT WOODEN LEGS MADE

Simple and Cheap Device Introduced to Technical Board

Artificial legs, which will enable soldiers and mine workers who have lost their limbs to engage in labor efficiently, will be introduced at the meeting of the Technical Board this afternoon.

Masatoku Watanabe of Kugahara, Omori-ku, Tokyo is the inventor of this wooden-leg. Simple in structure and light in weight it enables its wearers to walk easily or to work without undue strain. Furthermore, the manufacturing cost is reported to be low. On that occasion 11 other scientific inventions will also be submitted.

Koiso Leaves for Keijo

General Kuniaki Koiso, Governor-General of Chosen, who arrived here on May 2, having completed consultations with the home Government, left for Keijo on Friday.

Obituary

Keiryu Honda, 69, chief executive of the Nishi Honganji Temple, Kyoto, died of pneumonia on Thursday at his Kyoto residence.

Tsutomu Okazaki, 61, former president of the All-Japan Association of Town and Village Heads, died of illness at his home in Okayama City on May 15.

Moslem Leader Hailed

Imam Ibud tu Rashid Ibrahim was 95 years old on Friday. On that day a colorful gathering was held at the Moslem School in Shibuya to celebrate the occasion and many celebrities were there to wish him a happy birthday. He (left) is shown in above photo with Lieutenant-General Nobutaka Shioden.

FARMERS PROSPER IN NEGRI SEMBILAN

Reclamation of Land, Creation Of Farms Realize Increase In Food Production

Special

SEREMBAN, May 16.—The reclamation of the vast malaria-infested jungles and the creation of farm sites for several thousand peasant farmers in Negri Sembilan Province have been generously supported by the authorities.

Amid the flourishing villages can be seen a spectacular drive for self-sufficiency in foodstuffs. At the commencement of the first fiscal year two years ago, the Military Administration put into operation a three-year plan for the attainment of self-sufficiency in essential foodstuffs. At the end of the first two years, brilliant results were achieved. Not only are foodstuffs sufficient to meet the requirements of the state being produced, but large quantities are also being supplied to other parts of Malai.

One outstanding feature of this phenomenal increase in foodstuff production is that a considerable portion of the labor force exploited by the former British regime on the rubber plantations, is today being turned into sturdy farmers, each possessing three acres of cultivated land which yields ample foodstuffs and a steady income.

Another feature is that the serving of Malai as the center of the entrepot trade has resulted in the diversion of a considerable amount of private capital to agriculture. This is evident from the fact that over one-third of the total area under cultivation is managed by private initiative and capital.

During the current fiscal year of the three-year plan, the authorities intend to bring the total cultivated area to 220,000 acres. According to this plan, each household is urged to cultivate at least one-third of an acre. The planting material and land is to be granted by the authorities. Already the people in various districts have formed labor service corps to cultivate vacant lots in the neighborhood.

In addition to improving the existing production, the authorities have plans this year for the further introduction of Japanese agricultural methods, the intensification of plans for exterminating agricultural pest, the improvement of existing irrigation works, the construction of others, as well as the increase of fertilizers and a provision for the further monetary support of colonists.

Made Upper House Members

Dr. Takao Yamada, president of the Shingu Kogakukan University Matsutaro Shoriki, president of the Yomiuri-Hochi Shimbun; and Seinosuke Hashimoto, director of the Secretariat of the Imperial Rule Political Assistance Association, have been appointed members of the House of Peers, it was announced on Thursday afternoon.

To Visit Home Office

Dr. Ba Han, Head of the Burma Special Research Commission, is expected to visit the Home Ministry at 9:30 a.m. today to confer with the Home Minister and other officials. In the afternoon Dr. Ba Han will meet the Chief of the Metropolitan Police and inspect the police system.

Piano Recital in Kyoto

The third piano recital of Madam Gerda Hick-Bodenstein will be held at the German Cultural Institute, Higashi-Ichijo, Kyoto, at 7 p.m. today.

PHILIPPINES TO PICK NIPPON GARDEN SITE

Will Also Erect Monument in Memory of 25 Japanese Leaders in Compounds

Special

MANILA, May 18.—The Philippine Historical Markers Committee is scheduled to meet tomorrow at the office of the Director of the National Library in order to select a site for the Japanese Garden to be laid out in memory of the 25 Japanese who aided the Filipinos in their struggle for independence.

A crowning feature of the garden will be a simple monument to be erected in the center. It is understood that the designing of the garden walls as well as the monument is being taken care of by the proper authorities. The site will be located at a place which has long been associated with Japanese community life in Manila.

Among the 25 Japanese to be honored are General Taro Katsura, War Minister; Lieutenant-General Yujiro Nakamura, War Vice-Minister, who granted permission to Dr. Yaroku Nakamura, foremost Japanese advocate of Philippine independence to purchase armament for the first Philippine Republic proclaimed in Malolos, Bulacan Province, in 1898; General Viscount Soroku Kawakami, Chief of the Army General Staff, who persuaded Viscount Shuzo Aoki, Foreign Minister, to permit Dr. Nakamura to buy arms for the Filipino revolutionists against Spain, and Tsuyoshi Inukai, leader of the Shimpoto, at that time a political party, and an ardent sympathizer of the Philippine cause who later became Prime Minister of Japan.

CHINESE REDS' CONFLICT WITH CHIANG WORSENING

Domei

SHANGHAI, May 18.—A severe conflict to gain influence in the south of the Yangtze River is now reported to be going on between the Chinese Communist's New Fourth Army and the Chungking's Royal National Salvation Army.

After the Huannan Affair at the end of 1942, the New Fourth Army had concentrated its main strength on the Yangtze River, but recently it has advanced to the southern area of the same river. Hitherto, the New Fourth Army consisted of seven divisions, but it has lately increased two more divisions, appointing General Lin Ying as Commander of the Eighth Division and General Ho Ko-hsi, Commander of the Ninth Division.

These two new commanders are frantically attempting to gain footholds in the southeastern part of Anhwei Province, which is under the occupation of the Chungking's National Salvation Army, thus aggravating the relations between the two armies.

Savings Campaign Set

With the aim of surpassing the current fiscal year's savings goal of ¥36,000,000,000, a special savings campaign will be launched for a period of one month starting from the middle of June, it has been decided by the Finance Ministry.

Takes Kawasaki Mayor Post

Kiyoo Enabe, Deputy Mayor of Kyoto, who was recommended as Mayor of Kawasaki, has accepted his post after consultation with Toshitatsu Karasawa, Home Vice-Minister, on Friday.

ANTI-U.S. FEELING RIFE IN CHUNGKING

American Dollar Upsets Chiang Currency; Campaign Raised Against Yankees

Domei

SHANGHAI, May 16.—The disturbing effect of the American dollar on Chungking currency is daily getting pernicious with the intensification of black-market trading, according to information received here recently.

Chungking authorities and the people in general are not only cudgeling their brains to map out measures to save the situation, but are also raising a campaign against United States troops and residents.

On his return to Chungking from an inspection tour of the Kunming area, Dr. H. H. Kung, Chungking Finance Minister, last month, stated in a press interview that he would take a decisive step toward eradicating black-market trading in American currency.

The price of the American dollar, however, has been soaring with the progress of time. Though the official rate of one American dollar is 20 Chungking dollars, it has now reached the stage where one American dollar is equivalent to 220 to 230 Chungking dollars, with the issue of Chungking fapi showing an enormous increase.

The Kungchen Jih Pao, in an article entitled "Market Condition Due to Influx of Foreign Currency," reviewed the steady increase in black-market rates for the U.S. dollar and corresponding deterioration in the value of the fapi.

The Hunan Jih Pao, discussing the same problem, stated that the most envied persons in Chungking-controlled areas are those in the employment of American organizations.

Typists, or ordinary clerks, for example, may be paid only U.S. $100, but, when it is computed in Chungking fapi, it becomes $23,000.

The steady deterioration in the value of the Chungking fapi is partly due to the fault of the Americans, the paper said.

Faces Financial Collapse

Special

SHANGHAI, May 16.—Forecasting the insurmountable financial difficulty which is certain to confront Chungking due to the prevailing acute inflationary tendencies in Chiang-controlled areas, the Hsin Chung Kuo Pao, leading Shanghai journal, declared yesterday in its editorial that government bond issues by the regime had already reached the saturation point, so far totaling 9,800,000,000 yuan, including 3,000,000,000 yuan which was issued this year.

This amount, the journal said, made a further jump when $200,000,000 of bonds as well as 170,000,000 yuan of local bonds were added. Pointing out that the consumption of this mammoth total of Chungking government bonds so far had reached only 20 per cent against the issues, the journal added that the Chungking regime is desperately attempting to make both ends meet in the national accounts by recklessly increasing legal tender issues.

"The note issues of the Chungking regime have been increasing by leaps and bounds during the past several years, and now have reached surprisingly astronomical figures," the journal stated.

Composite surveys based on figures which were published by Chungking periodicals revealed that the regime's note issues by 1942 had increased by about 28,000,000,000 yuan, while an additional 20,000,000,000 yuan increase was noted by April 1943, it was disclosed. All inclusive, the note issues by the Chungking regime, the journal continued, so far must have topped the 100,000,000,000 yuan mark.

The paper pointed out that the Chungking leaders, in order to alleviate the extremely unfavorable effects of such abnormal inflationary currency on Chungking's industry and commerce, were planning to encourage savings by the population and had fixed the 1944 national savings goal at 220,900,000,000 yuan.

"To save this amount within one year is utterly impossible, taking into consideration the impoverished condition of Chungking's population," declared the journal. To make matters worse for Chungking, the paper added, acuter inflationary tendencies were certain to arise, while a sharp increase in war expenses by the United States forces stationed in Chungking will prove another financial blow to Chungking.

The currency problem confronting Chungking daily is assuming uncontrollable proportions, heralding a complete financial collapse to Chungking's structure, the editorial declared.

East Asia Round-Up

Antiseptic Cotton Made

Domei

MANILA, May 19.—Attesting once more to rapid scientific progress, the Philippines National Development Company has started the manufacture of antiseptic cotton for medical use.

Rizal's Friends Feted

Domei

MANILA, May 19.—Following his meetings with groups of scientists, teachers, jurists, economists and members of other professions in an effort to integrate and co-ordinate their activities, President Jose P. Laurel on Saturday gave a luncheon party at the Malacanan for friends and contemporaries of Dr. Jose Rizal. The President took a great interest in hearing from these associates and friends stories and anecdotes of Dr. Rizal.

Cleans Memorial Monument

Domei

PONTIANAK, May 19.—Early every morning for the last half a year, 17-year-old Miss Akiye Kobayashi, a Japanese living here, has cleaned the grounds and laid fresh flower offerings before the Pontianak memorial monument to the war dead. Her father, one of the pioneer Japanese settlers in Borneo, is now with the North Borneo Japanese Forces as an interpreter.

Lectures for Japanese

Domei

MANILA, May 19.—Lectures for enhancement of the spiritual and cultural education of the Japanese in the Philippines will be sponsored by the Japanese Association in Central Luzon beginning June 1 when the lectures will be held twice monthly.

Christian Body Expands

Domei

MACASSAR, May 19.—With reforms effected in its organization, the scope of the Celebes Christian Federation will be extended to the entire island. Branch offices will be established in Menado, Posso and other cities.

Liaison Office Created

Special

PENANG, May 18.—The local Military Administration has established a liaison office in order to streamline the economic activities of the overseas Chinese.

P.I. Sailboats United

Domei

MANILA, May 19.—With the view of promoting merchant marine service in the islands, sailboats operating in Philippine waters were united under the Philippine Sailboat Owners' Association with its head office in Manila. Captain Hilario Benedicto was named president and general manager of the Association.

Boosting Economic Order

Special

DJAKARTA, May 18.—Fifty-five officials and civilians were appointed by the Japanese Military Administration in Java to form a preparatory committee to map out practical means of constructing a new economic order in Java.

Stamping Out Illiteracy

Special

DJOGJAKARTA, May 18.—A total of 100,000 men are now ready for activity as instructors in anti-illiteracy courses which are starting soon throughout Djogja Sultanate. Teachers, Government employes and chiefs of neighborhood groups have volunteered for the work.

Settling in Bintan

Special

SHONAN, May 18.—Fifty Malai and 32 Indian families left for Bintan Island on May 16 to take up farming. Ishak Bin Muhammad, former editor-in-chief of the Berita Malai, together with his wife and daughter were among the emigrants.

SUEHIRO MADE CHAIRMAN OF HEALTH CULTURE BODY

Teidai Professor Succeeds Late Takashi Go; New Changes Made in Setup

Dr. Izutaro Suehiro, Dean of the Law Development of Tokyo Imperial University, has been appointed the new chairman of the board of directors of the Dai Nippon Physical Culture Society following the death of Dr. Takashi Go, the former chairman. Renovations have also been effected in the organization of the Association.

Departments will be established to take care of the physical culture and training of the people in general, the industrial workers and able-bodied men, and under the supervision of these departments various activities are scheduled for this year under a total budget of ¥800,000.

Among the industrial workers efforts will made to diffuse physical improvement knowledge and to introduce enjoyable gymnastics and interesting games. As for the young men, movements will be started to have all the nationals of Japan learn the art of swimming and to give skiing instructions to those living in the snow regions.

It is also contemplated to establish a medical affairs committee, comprised of 60 members including some of the well-known doctors, experts in psychology and authorities in the field of physical training.

CELEBES TO BOOST LIVESTOCK RAISING

New Program Outlined to Meet Large Demand for Meat, Hides and Leather

Domei

MACASSAR, May 19.—For the purpose of meeting the demand of meat, hides as well as horses, the Japanese Naval Administration has drawn up livestock breeding measures as part of the 1944-45 fiscal year program in areas under its jurisdiction. With the formulation of this plan, steps to improve the breed of livestock have entered an active stage.

In various districts in Celebes and South Borneo, plans have been outlined to increase the number of pigs, horses and buffaloes. In Lesser Sunda, which is already more or less self-sufficient in livestock, the authorities will exert further efforts to increase the export of livestock.

In connection with horse breeding, considerable head of horses have been voluntarily offered from Soembawa and Soemba. This year, plans are underway for mass export of horses from three sectors including Flores Island. Head of horses to be exported from these sectors this year are expected to increase by two and a half times over those of last year.

In parallel with the above plan, another project is underway, aiming for horse-breeding measures on a permanent basis throughout the area under the Naval Administration. For this purpose extensive investigation is being made.

Regarding the milk output, considerable head of Holstein cows have already been brought in from Java and already distributed to major cattle-raising places.

With regard to hides, plans are underway in various districts, including Lesser Sunda, Celebes and South Borneo, to increase the production of cattle.

In addition, the authorities are also encouraging leather industry. In this connection, the tanning industry has already started in South Borneo and is now in full operation. Mangrove bark, which is essential for the manufacture of tanning, is found abundantly in South Borneo.

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TOKYO, SATURDAY, MAY 20, 1944

Planning for Burma's Future

The projected establishment of a Planning Board in Burma as disclosed by Dr. Ba Han, Head of the Special Burma Research Commission, during his meeting with the press on Thursday afternoon is proof once again that Burma is a nation possessing a vigor which is dynamic and irrepressible. By sending the Special Burma Research Commission to the nations of East Asia to gather data on all possible avenues of endeavor so that they may be used by the new Planning Board, the Government of Burma has shown that it is throwing its full weight upon the task of making itself a still greater, more successful nation. The projected establishment of the Planning Board indicates that the tremendous drive of the Burmese people which helped them attain independence some ten months ago will also carry them to further greatness. It is proof that the Burmese nation is not going to build itself into greater stature in the Greater East Asia family of nations by mere wishing or depending on others but by the sweat of the brow and on a basis which is systematic and scientific.

The Special Burma Research Commission, Dr. Ba Han revealed, has prepared a list of four hundred questions to be studied and answered during its tour of the nations of East Asia. The data collected by the Commission will be sifted out upon the return of the mission to Burma and will be used in planning the further development of the nation. That the Planning Board will be no temporary body to deal merely with the present was pointed out by Dr. Ba Han's statement that it will plan with two views, a short run view and a long run view. On the short run view, the Planning Board will draw blueprints for national civilian defense and reconstruction during the war in order to aid further the prosecution of the War of Greater East Asia. And on the long run view, the Board will outline methods for reconstruction and new construction and development in the peace to come. Without further amplification, this in itself is indicative of the earnest will of the Burmese nation to give its utmost in the war for the liberation of East Asia and of the bright future it sees which will crown its present struggles and sacrifices.

By dispatching the Commission and preparing for the establishment of a Planning Board, Burma, the first state among the newly liberated nations of East Asia to become independent, again shows that Japan's confidence was not misplaced when she aided Burma in the attainment of her freedom. The attainment of independence was not the only thing for which the Burmese people unitedly strove. Independence was only the beginning of their drive for true greatness. With the southeastern ramparts of liberated East Asia today solidly formed by Burma, Japan's hard-fighting, hard-working, hard-thinking ally, the future indeed holds no terrors for the East Asian Axis. Rather the future is radiant with hope, for Burma is showing herself consistently progressive even in the midst of the blows rained by the enemy. Independent Burma knows that victory is worth any price. In the words of Dr. Ba Han, "We feel that we are really fighting for our country. Burma is suffering more than any other country, but we feel it worth the price."

Burma's heroic efforts for the prosecution of the war and her far-seeing policy of planning for the peace to follow will certainly aid to a major degree the realization of the ideals for which East Asia is fighting.

Discrimination Again

The United States Senate's failure on May 15 to repeal the age-old poll-tax imposed on the voters in eight of the Southern States has dealt another severe blow to the Negro people's fight for political equality and justice. The immediate result of this legislative action will be to deprive the majority of the 9,000,000 Negroes in the South from casting their ballots in the forthcoming presidential election in November. Its refusal to abolish the unjust poll-tax which was originally devised to keep the colored peoples away from the voting booths also neutralizes to a certain extent the decision of the United States Supreme Court on April 3 of this year which recognized the right of the Negroes to take part in State primary elections.

The Senate's action, however, was not surprising. Although the House of Representatives had already passed this bill to remove the poll-tax by federal legislation, it was clear from the very outset that the powerful Southern bloc in the Senate would muster enough votes to reject the bill. And apparently that is what has happened. The time-old tradition of the Southern States to "maintain the rule of white supremacy" was again upheld!

While the discussion on the poll-tax bill will be taken up again next year by the Senate, there is little possibility from present indications that it will be passed. The bloody race riots which broke out in Detroit only last summer, the vehement denunciations which greeted the United States Supreme Court's decision on April 3, the movement under way at the present time to nullify this ruling of the highest court of the country by returning to the method of selecting political candidates by conventions or by abandoning primary elections as South Carolina has done and the recent ruling of the Interstate Commerce Commission approving the segregation of Negroes from whites on public carriers are all proof that racial intolerance, bigotry and prejudice are yet too deep-laid in the United States to bring about an enlightened action on the part of the Senate within such a short time.

How warped and perverted is the American whites' sense of social justice was well illustrated recently by the American magazine, the New Republic, which quoted one Southern legislator as saying some months ago that "while our boys are fighting and dying for democracy, democracy is being betrayed at home by these anti-poll-tax agitators who are trying to destroy our principle of white supremacy." Another United States Congressman, in a statement read into the Congressional Record, stated that there is no racial discrimination in the United States armed forces as already a very large percentage of the enlisted Negroes has been sent overseas! There is apparently no discrimination of the Negroes in the United States if they can be used as cannon fodder! But the proposal to broaden the base of Negro suffrage by eliminating the poll-tax regulation is denounced as "undemocratic."

Well might the New Republic admit that the outrageous legal and extra-legal disenfranchisement of some 9,000,000 Negroes is one of the chief pieces of "unfinished business" before American democracy. The senseless persecution of the Negroes is the most incriminating testimony of the absolute incapability of the United States to bring about international justice, harmony and racial accord. The silence of the Atlantic Charter regarding the principle of racial equality would seem to indicate that the United States does not intend to extend equality of treatment to all the peoples of the globe, just as she is denying it to the Negroes within her own borders.

International peace, to be durable, however must be based on a more enlightened judgment. Racial discrimination must be abolished from this world. The Joint Declaration of the Greater East Asiatic Nations drafted by Japan and the other nations of the Orient, promising equality to all races wherever they may be, must be the new creed of humanity if it is to enter the millennium of lasting international peace and harmony.

A Year Ago Today

May 20, 1943

Large formations of Japanese fighter and bomber planes early this morning raided Liangshan, air base of the American air force in Szechwan Province, blasting various military objectives and causing many fires.

* * *

Following up yesterday's raid on Kienow, in Fukien Province, another unit of Japanese flyers today attacked Kienow airfield and inflicted heavy damage to the remaining military installations. As the result of yesterday's raid, the airfield is now unusable.

* * *

The disastrous overflow of the Mississippi River and its tributaries continues unabated, inundating a vast area of over 2,000,000 acres in the central states of Indiana, Illinois, Oklahoma, Missouri and Arkansas. A large number of military factories has been forced to suspend operations. The number of the homeless in Indiana and Illinois is estimated at over 22,000. Communication between the eastern states and the Indiana district has been completely severed.

* * *

United States Secretary of State Cordell Hull and Chungking Ambassador to Washington Dr. Wei Tao-ming, signed the agreement for abolishing extraterritoriality in China today. The empty promise to cancel extraterritoriality was made by the United States to Chungking for the purpose of winning the favor of the Chiang regime, but the signing of the agreement is utterly meaningless.

Britain's Depredations in India

Shocking Misery Has Been Lot of Indian Masses for Three Long Centuries

Editor's Note: A sledge-hammer of justice has begun to descend on Britain for her crimes in India. All that is India's must be restored to India. All the riches Britain has snatched from India must be paid back with interest. The day of reckoning for Britain is coming. The following article from the Mainichi Shimbun is an inventory of the spoilations of Britain's pillage in India for the last three centuries.

At the beginning of the 17th century, Britain founded the East India Company as an instrument of piratical trade. Its quarters were opened in Calcutta, Madras and Bombay. The pirates wheedled native industrialists into supplying handicraft products in any amount and accepting payment in rupees coined at the Company's own mint. No wonder the Company's capital swelled from £400,000 in 1612 to £3,600,000 in 1683.

Then, as the Company began to interfere in India's government, it embarked on full-dress plunder through Robert Clive, clerk of the Madras branch and later the first governor of Bengal. His capacity knew no bounds. In return for supporting the prince of Bengal, Clive forced donations out of him of £800,000 to the Company, £240,000 to himself and £400,000 to the Company's staff. For subjugating rebels, he extorted a life annuity for himself of £300,000 from the same price. Later, as the Company acquired controlling powers in the military and financial affairs of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa provinces, the Company in ten years from 1757 to 1766 amassed £1,500,000,000, in Bengal alone, while the Company's high officials made their £2,170,000.

Hastings Sucked Bengal Dry

Even more rapacious than Clive, however, was Warren Hastings, the first Viceroy. He was a vampire to the core. After sucking Bengal dry, he held a native princess in hostage and obtained £1,200,000 as ransom.

When the monopoly of trade by the East India Company was abolished in 1813, Britain launched out into undisguised aggression against India, of which the most glaring instance was her tariff policy. Beginning 1810, Britain imposed ad valorem duties ranging from 30 to 70 per cent on India's staple exports, cotton and silk goods, while British exports to India were subject to a negligible duty of 2.5 per cent. Yet the Lancashire spinners, not content with this, demanded and actually got exemption from duty. When in 1898 the Indian Government, for financial reasons, reimposed 3.5 to 58 per cent duties, the British cotton interests agitated for the imposition of the same rates of consumption tax on cotton piece-goods produced in India and they had their way.

After the latter part of the 19th century, Britain made investments in India, beginning with those in railways. By the end of the century, India had been enmeshed in British capital, interest on which accounted for the bulk of her overseas payments other than trade payments. In the meantime, British shipping and financial interests, too, were now making huge profits in India. The biggest gainer among this latter group was the Exchange Bank of England, which eventually gobbled up India's trade and commercial finance and enjoyed an annual profit of 200,000,000 rupees.

London Formulates Budget

The most striking proof of British plunder in India is to be found in the "expenditures of the home Government" which India is made to bear. The budget of these expenditures is formulated in London and forced on the Indian Government, who must accept it without the slightest argument. These expenditures in recent years have been averaging £30,000,000 (400,000,000 rupees), one-third of the annual expenditure of the Indian Government. The "expenditures of the home Government" are accounted for mostly by interest payments on Pound public bonds, the balance representing defense and administrative outlays. By defense and administrative outlays are understood pensions to retired soldiers and Government servants. The budget of the "expenditures of the home Government" is based on India's export excess, which is another way of saying that India's favorable trade balance, the fruit of the sweated toil of the Indian masses, is wrested from them without the slightest scruples.

An even more unscrupulous extortion by the British is to be found in the donations forced out of the principalities. These donations are a heritage left by the East India Company. Even today 220 principalities are making an aggregate donation of 7,200,000 rupees annually.

Unable to get the required amount of funds from taxation, already back-breaking, Britain resorted to unlimited bond issues in callous disregard of the extremely limited spending power of the Indian people, who have been carrying the crushing burden for the last several hundred years. Here is a record of the heavy accumulation of bond issues, £7,000,000 in 1792; £210,000,000 in 1899; £710,900,000 in 1936.

Used to Capacity by Britain

India's manpower, resources and money have been utilized by Britain to capacity for military purposes. The following is a record of the financial sacrifices extracted from India by the British in their wars of aggression: £15,000,000 in the first war with Afghanistan; £14,000,000 in the first war with Burma; £6,000,000 in the wars with Persia and China; £40,000,000 in the Sepoy war; £600,000 in the war with Abyssinia; £17,500,000 in the second war with Afghanistan; £1,200,000 in the war with Egypt; £13,000,000 in the tribal war on the northwestern border; £4,700,000 in the third war with Burma. This is in addition to the blood shed by Indian people. And all this to help in the maintenance of British imperialism.

In the last World War, India had one million of her sons driven to the field of battle and £243,000,000 of her money taken away from her.

According to the census of 1929 covering 41 countries, the ratio of India's military expenditures to the total budget was 45.29 per cent, as against 14.75 per cent in Britain and 16.09 per cent in the United States.

In the current war, under the decision reached at New Delhi in October, 1940, the British have driven 2,000,000 Indians to the firing lines and several million more, young and old, men and women, into factories and mines.

The administrative expenditures in India for the fiscal year 1938-1939 were 113,110,000 rupees, representing 10 per cent of the total budget and the highest in the world. Small wonder the Britons in Government service in India are far and away the highest-paid government officials in the world. The Viceroy gets 21,330 rupees monthly, double the salary of the British Prime Minister and 4,300 rupees more than that of the American President.

Masses Suffer Misery

Shocking misery has been the lot of the Indian masses. Dr. K. T. Shah's investigation revealed that the people's income for 1921-1922 was only 14,700-million rupees or 46 rupees per capita per year (less than four rupees per month). Bringing the misery of the Indian people into bolder relief is a report by the International Labor Office, which says that while the minimum living cost of an Indian is between 23 and 56 rupees per month, a male factory hand gets no more than 10-18 rupees per month and a female operative 8 to 10 rupees. Ninety per cent of the laboring population in Bombay, the same report discloses, cannot afford better housing accommodation than one room for every four persons. Cases are reported where even six families of 30 people share one room.

British cruelty knows no end. In order to distract the minds of the Indian masses from the miseries of their lives, John Bull has encouraged opium-smoking. How widespread this fatal evil is can be gathered from the fact that, although the International Opium Office prohibits the sale of more than 12 pounds per 10,000 people, consumption in Assam has been 200 to 400 pounds and in Calcutta 280 pounds per population of 10,000.

Such has been Britain's policy for three long centuries. But the day of retribution has come. All the same, it is time that the Indian people put a definite stop to their "service" to the British masters.

TO A FRIEND GOING HOME

By LI PO

Translated by S. Obata

It is June when the south
wind blows the white
sand,
And the oxen pant under
the moon, their gusty
breath turning to mist.
The lowland air is humid
and suffocating, and it is
hard to bear.
There is no coach on the
long road in the burning
heat.
What do you think of going
by way of the river?
You leave for Chin-ling,
hoisting your sail high to
the breeze.
Your parents are waiting
and watching for you,
leaning against the gate.
In Luh-chung there is the
home of your childhood.
My family live for the time
at the Sand Hill;
I have not returned for
three years, and they are
distracted.
Please, go and see them!—
You know Po-hin, my
boy.
He must be running his toy
cart and riding on the
back of a white sheep.

U.S. OUTPUT FIGURES REGISTER DECLINE

Shortage of Labor Most Strongly Felt by Industries

(From the Diamond)

The most conspicuous characteristics of United States wartime economy are the vastness of its wartime economic plannings and the high production index accompanied by their execution.

According to the announcements made by the Federal Reserve Board, the industrial production index of the United States increased from about 120 or thereabout for 1940 (the figure for 1935-39 being taken as 100) to as high as 250 in 1943, although revisions were made in the formation of the index base and other respects.

Production expansion is also shown by the following concrete figures:

U.S. Wartime Production
(In 1,000,000,000 dollars)

	1939	1942	1943
Total National Production	88.6	151.7	186.8
War Expenses	1.4	49.3	83.7
Other Gov. Expenses	14.6	12.4	11.7
Percentage of war expenses to total national production	2%	32%	45%

(Note: the above datum was released by the United States Ministry of Commerce.)

The production activities of the United States, as indicated by that of aircraft, iron and steel and by the amounts of the war expenses, have been on an upward trend during the current year. However, the rate of increase has been slowed down as compared with former figures, and in fact it has stopped in some branches of industry or has been decreased in its tendency. Although this has been pointed out already in various quarters, it nevertheless is a noteworthy phenomenon, for it clearly reveals the present state of American wartime economy.

It has been generally recognized that the strength of United States economy consisted in its vast resources, great industrial equipment, superior technique and vast labor power. But this strength has almost exhausted itself during last year. Viewed from the amount of labor power expended, the zenith of American production power was reached during the period between summer and autumn last year, and has been on a downward tendency thereafter in inverse ratio with the expansion of her military recruitment.

Drafting Workers Opposed

Generally speaking, in order that industrial equipment display its maximum power, a definite amount of labor and materials should be assured. When this labor power becomes deficient, a proportional amount of industrial equipment must drop out of the production front. It is because of this that opposition has appeared within the American Government, about the drafting of the workers in the important branches of industry.

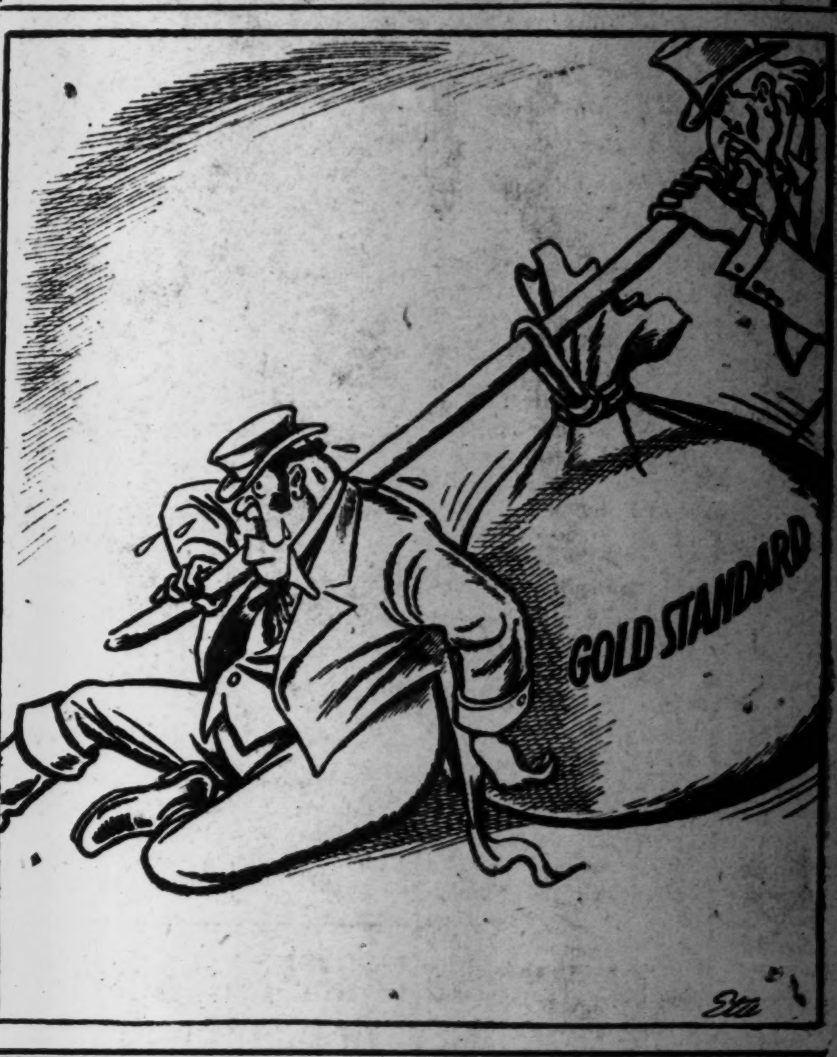
According to a recent issue of the American magazine, Time, the number of men whom the United States Draft Board can mobilize up to July 1 is estimated at 920,000 (of whom bachelors number 420,000, fathers 250,000 and those who newly attain the 18th year, 250,000), whereas the number required by both the United States Army and Navy is 1,160,000, so that 240,000 are deficient. In order to fill this shortage, the Government had to suspend the privilege of deferment from military conscription for persons under 26 years on the ground of their occupation.

That these measures have dealt a heavy blow to the important branches of production is indicated by the complaints which have been heard that "wartime production has been impaired" or "the production of food is difficult" by government officials such as Donald Nelson, chairman of the War Production Board and Paul McNutt, chairman of the Wartime Manpower Resources Board, as well as by industrialists and farmers.

It is said in steel circles that as the result of the intense drafting of manpower from the industrial field, the steel industry will lose between five to ten per cent of its young workers, and that the dearth of labor power will be multiplied.

The only hope for filling the existing labor shortage is to mobilize women, but since their number has already reached the stupendous record of 16,000,000, it is doubtful that much hope can be attached to any successful further drafting of women laborers. Dark, indeed, is the picture of American wartime economy.

Too Heavy a Load



EAST ASIA'S EDITORIAL FORUM

Views of Leading Journals on Pertinent Subjects

Basic Principles

(From The Shanghai Times)

The present global war obviously marks the rise of American imperialism and the decline of British world hegemony. Equally obvious is the fate of American imperialism, which is irretrievably destined to crumble to dust with the close of the war. This is an inevitable trend of history. It is therefore only too natural that the American and British interests should clash with each other at frequent intervals in the course of the war. In all different phases of the anti-Axis war effort, military, political, economic and otherwise, the American plutocrats thus find themselves frequently at loggerheads with their British associates in their joint war for world conquest. It is for this very reason that their representatives meet in conference once in every few months in the vain hope of smoothing out their differences, while their garrulous spokesmen incessantly talk about "agreement," "co-ordination," "unity,' "integration," etc. However, with the gradual rise in power of American imperialism the Anglo-American schism in war strategy as well as in their scramble for political, economic and other aggrandizement continues to become aggravated. The result is that the "growing misgivings between the British and Americans," as an American writer puts it, are now evident even to the anti-Axis observers. Such discord is indeed inherent in imperialism and plutocracy, which are inevitably self-centered and exclusive in nature, and consequently absolutely incompatible with independence, freedom, equality, justice and other prerequisites to world peace and human progress.

Thus, it is as clear as day that so long as imperialism and plutocracy are allowed to hold their sway over the world, there will be no lasting peace for all mankind. In this sense the present war, which was started by the Anglo-American plutocrats seeking to tighten their death grip on all oppressed races and nations for relentless domination and exploitation, certainly affords a golden opportunity for all peace-loving peoples of the world to crush Anglo-American imperialism and plutocracy, and thereby rid themselves of all causes for future international strife once and for all. It may even be said that, should we fail to muster sufficient strength to frustrate the armed aggression of the Anglo-American Powers at this opportunity, all mankind will have to accept domination and exploitation even more humiliating and relentless than ever before, at least for another several centuries, if not for ever. What the Anglo-American plutocrats are capable of doing in the matter of tyranny, persecution and mass murder is more than obvious from what they have done in India, Burma, the Philippines and elsewhere during the past several centuries, outstanding among the innumerable instances of such Anglo-American atrocities being the massacre of Amritsar, in which 379 innocent men, women and children were mercilessly butchered and more than 1,200 maimed on April 13, 1919.

It is indeed against such Anglo-American atrocities as well as against other evils of imperialism and plutocracy that we are now fighting in the present War of Greater East Asia. And fight we will until aggression is crushed and all Greater East Asiatic nations are made free and independent for all time to come. For this purpose each and every member of the Greater East Asia Common Prosperity Region should learn to defend and govern itself effectively, so that there may be left no room for any fresh attempt at aggression by alien imperialism. Since it is clear beyond any shadow of doubt that Asia's peace began to be disturbed with the arrival of the British pirates in India several centuries ago, we should never allow an imperialistic or plutocratic alien Power to return to Greater East Asia, at least politically, even after the war. Each nation should, as it certainly will, stand on its own feet, and tell all would-be intruders to mind their own business instead of trying to poke their nose into East Asia's internal affairs. This mind-your-own-business principle is, as far as we can see, the only sound basis on which future world peace can be made to rest for all time to come.

It is, in fact, in the spirit of this principle that Japan declared war on the United States and Britain, who had threatened to destroy her national security by means of an economic war and the so-called ABCD military encirclement carried out against her. It is also along the lines of this principle that Japan is now rendering all-out assistance to the Azad Hind Government and its army, as well as to other East Asiatic nations, in their historic struggle for independence and freedom. In this connection we should never lose sight of the basic fact that Asia is Asia, and neither America nor Europe, that we are all Asiatics, and neither Americans nor Europeans. Therefore, so long as the Anglo-American plutocrats insist on invading Asia for the cause of their "national interest" they are our common enemy, whom we must beat to his knees at any cost if Asia is to be made safe for co-existence and co-prosperity for all East Asiatic nations. Only by thus defeating Anglo-American aggression and restoring Asia to the Asiatics for good, we shall be able to secure unqualified independence and sovereignty for each member of the Greater East Asia Common Prosperity Region in conformity with Japan's traditional policy of Hakko Ichiu as well as with the principles of Pan-Asianism.

Fruits of Wisdom

We take our colors, chameleon-like, from each other.—Chamfort.

Everything under the sun is dual. Beauty is contrasted to ugliness; therefore, if you do not pride yourself on your beauty, who will say you are ugly? Purity is opposed to impurity; therefore, if you do not boast that you are pure, who will charge you with corruption?—Ts'ai-ken-t'an.

The blessing of an active mind, when it is in a good condition, is, that it not only employs itself, but is almost sure to be the means of giving wholesome employment to others.—Arion.

Philosophy is the art of living.—Plutarch.

Virtue has many preachers, but few martyrs.—Helvetius.

The worst of all knaves are those who can mimic their former honesty.—Lavater.

Almost all my tragedies were sketched in my mind, in the very act of hearing music, or a few hours after.—Alfieri.